



CANE RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION  
244 Cedar Bend  
Natchez, Louisiana 71456  
318-357-3007 office 318-617-3235 cell

## **ORDINANCE 2 OF 2021**

### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2 OF 2011 TO ENACT REGULATION FOR THE OPERATION AND USE OF WATERCRAFTS ON THE CANE RIVER WATERWAY, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE REGULATION OF WATERCRAFTS DURING RIVER CLOSINGS, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES AND ADVERTISEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Cane River Waterway Commission is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana, created pursuant to R.S. 34:3261 et. seq.;

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Cane River Waterway Commission was created for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining the Cane River Waterway, and included among the powers delegated to the Cane River Waterway District is the power be the regulatory authority of the Cane River Waterway, and to provide for its use pursuant to R. S. 34:3269(13); and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the governing authority of the Cane River Waterway District, the Cane River Waterway Commission, adopted regulations regarding the regulation and use of the Cane River Waterway by boaters in order to promote the safety and welfare of those persons utilizing the Cane River Waterway by Ordinance 2 of 2011; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Cane River Waterway Commission wishes to amend Section 8 of Ordinance 2 of 2011, which provides for the operation of watercraft on Cane River Lake when closed, in order to allow some discretion to allow for consideration of weather conditions when making the determination to close and/or open the lake to boat traffic; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDINED**, in legal session convened and in accordance with Louisiana R.S. 34:3261 et. seq., specifically R.S. 34:3261(13), Ordinance Number 2 of 2011 is hereby amended to provide for a new section 8, which shall provide as follows, to-wit:

#### **“Section 8. Operation of watercraft on Cane River Lake when closed**

- A. When water level in Cane River Lake reaches 99 feet above mean sea level, the Chairman, after taking weather conditions and forecasts into consideration, shall have authority to declare the lake closed to all watercraft traffic. Cane River Lake shall be immediately closed to all watercraft traffic when the water level reaches 99.5 feet above mean sea level. When water level in Cane River Lake drops to 98.7 feet above mean sea level, the Chairman, after taking weather conditions and forecasts into consideration, shall have authority to declare the lake open to all watercraft traffic. Cane River Lake shall immediately reopen when the water level drops to 98.5 feet above mean sea level.**

- B. Cane River Lake shall be closed to all watercraft traffic when the water level reaches 96 feet below mean sea level, and shall reopen when the water level rises to 96.4 feet below mean sea level.**
- C. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the operation of non-powered watercrafts, motorboats or vessels.**
- D. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the operation of electric trolling motors.**
- E. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the operation of the Cane River Waterway Commission vegetation control boat.**
- F. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to law enforcement vessels.**
- G. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to commercial work barges. The operator and/or owner is required to contact Cane River Patrol and schedule an escort prior to operation.**
- H. For the purpose of this subsection non-powered shall mean a watercraft, motorboat or vessel with no motor and/or mechanical device for the propulsion of said vessel.**
- I. During the time the river is closed, the public launches shall be closed. Any person using a public boat launch or tampering with any chain or post or other instrumentality used to barricade any public boat launch, either during river closures or launch closures, may be fined in accordance with Section 11, and may be further fined for any damage caused at the public boat launch.**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

If any portions of this Ordinance is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional in any manner, the invalidity shall be limited to that particular section or provision, and shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance, which shall remain valid and enforceable, it being the intention of the Cane River Waterway Commission that each separate provision shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein:

This Ordinance shall go into effect upon publication and in accordance with law.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on the 15 day of June, 2021, at a regular meeting of the Cane River Waterway Commission held at 244 Cedar Bend, Natchez, Louisiana.

Ordinance considered, on motion by \_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_, to adopt the ordinance, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: 5 (Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Methvin, Mr. Paige, Mr. Wiggins, Mrs. Banks)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

Whereupon, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly passed on this the July day of 20, 2021.

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Jim Rhodes, Chairman

